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Oct 18, 2004-10-18

**Call for Abstract and Invitation to
2005 International workshop on
Environmental monitoring and silica dust exposure assessment**

Dear Colleague Professor,

It is my great honor to invite you to attend the 2005 International Workshop on Environmental Monitoring and Silica Dust Exposure Assessment, which will be held in the city of Wuhan and Yichang, People's Republic of China on April 15-18, 2004. The workshop is organized by Tongji Medical College and sponsored by US National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (USA) and Huazhong University of Science and Technology.

As you know, pulmonary diseases resulting from exposure to silica and other dusts are among the dominant occupational hazards, especially in developing countries like China. In addition to silicosis and chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases, the association of carcinogenicity with silica dust exposures, as recently evaluated by IARC, challenges the international research community to improve the monitoring of silica dust exposure and of associated adverse health effects. The first and second international workshop on silica dust related- research was held in 1998 and 2001. This third workshop promises to expand on the success of the past two meetings, and provide a forum for presentation of recent study results and for discussion of future research needs, strategies, and opportunities for effective international collaborations on the global prevention of silica dust- related adverse health effects.

We invite all interested individuals to submit abstracts for oral and poster presentations. For more information please see the attached conference announcement and registration form.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Jizhou Xiang

Chairman , President and Professor

Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Tongji Medical College

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